Volume XI Chicago, Ill., January, 1935 Number 10

The Liberalist

NOW WHILE THE YEAR IS YOUNG

By JULIA BOYNTON GREEN

NOW while the year is young we speculate
Idly upon its possible events,
Envisioning matters big with consequence.
Is joy just round the corner? Is the gate
Unbarred to high prosperity? Will Fate
Forbear now from her long malevolence
And clouds disperse that gathered gray and dense?
Will problems clear, and poverty abate?

Heaven grant! But Wisdom bids, since earth is earth
And offers mingled potions to our lips,
Reliance on the simple, stable things,
Virtues of wide esteem and proven worth—
Love's flame kept bright for Fortune's chance eclipse,
The sweet rewards of mutual ministerings.

—American Mutual Magazine

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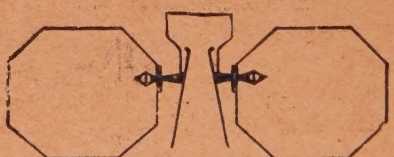

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THE LIBERALIST

Preston Bradley ..... **Editor**

Grace Thayer Bradley ..... **Associate Editor**

Volume XI Chicago, Ill., January, 1935 Number 10

ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY

* * * *

You Are Most Heartily Invited To Attend
the

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL DINNER
(INFORMAL)
of

THE PEOPLES CHURCH OF CHICAGO

at

EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL
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on

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 22, 1935
6:30 P. M.

* * * *

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CHRISTMAS IN THE PEOPLES CHURCH

In all the years of my pastorate I never remember a holiday season where we had more severe weather conditions. It was not very cold except at short intervals but the streets were covered with ice and snow making it almost impossible to come by auto or to walk. Yet in spite of all these adverse conditions our church passed through one of the most delightful Yuletide seasons we have ever had. The congregations at all of the services were large and on some occasions many were turned away unable to find seats.

The celebration by the church and the allied organizations started with the Book Lecture on Wednesday evening December 19th, when I gave a recital of Dicken's immortal story of "The Christmas Carol." This old and unsurpassed Christmas Tale never loses any of its universal appeal and a large audience heard it again with gladness and great appreciation.

On Friday evening, the 21st, our Church School of Religious Education presented a delightful program before an audience which completely filled Channing Hall. A program of singing, dancing and recitation was followed by the presentation of a delightful play which was given in a manner that won the hearty applause and response of all. Our school is growing. The teachers and pupils are having their best year. Santa Claus made his regular visit and was gratefully received. This year he resorted to his old method of transportation and came by sleigh and reindeer, instead of airplane as last year. There was plenty of snow for him this year.

On Sunday morning December 23rd, I preached my Christmas sermon which is always given on the Sunday preceding the Day itself. I used as a subject, "Is There A Santa Claus?" I look forward to no Sunday in the year with more pleasant anticipation than Christmas Sunday. I really believe I enjoy preaching on that day more than any other. We had a fine and appropriate musical program rendered by the choir under the direction of Mr. Abernethy with Walter Flandorf at the organ. There was a great congregation present and from the radio response I am sure that we had one of the largest radio audiences of the winter. In the evening we presented the Candlelight service which has been a tradition with us ever since we built our own building. Long before the service was to start people were being turned away unable to find seats. The choir and the church school children assisted in the beautiful service and the Uptown Players of the Peoples Church presented a most appropriate and effective play, "The Supreme Gift" which was directed by J. Bradley-Griffin. This was the first time the play had ever been given in Chicago. The play was written for the national contest of the League of American Pen Women by an Oklahoma woman and won first prize. It is the most effective and beautiful one act play with which I am familiar, with the Christmas motive. It gets away entirely from the conventional play of this type. Following the play I read the litany of the Candlelight service. The children of the school dressed in their white robes and each one carrying a lighted candle, singing their way in the processional as they marched down the aisles of the darkened church is an experience of the soul. This entire service was repeated two other times in order to accommodate all who desired to attend. The service was given on Monday evening (Christmas Eve) and on Friday evening the 28th. I am deeply grateful for the unprecedented response

given to the Candlelight services this year. It was most heartening.

On Christmas Day at 11 o'clock we held our annual Christmas Day service which was broadcast by the courtesy of WJJD. Not being a liturgical church the Christmas devotions and celebrations are not emphasized with us as they are with some of our other churches, yet on Christmas morning we always have a responsive and inspiring congregation. I never remember a more helpful Christmas service. I could detect the finest spirit of peace, goodwill and happiness prevailing throughout the auditorium as I entered the pulpit. I stood for an hour after the service was over greeting friends and members of the church. It gave a very happy opportunity to me to say personally to many of our friends what I have long wanted to say. Almost every day I express my deep gratitude for my happy ministry. Never was a man surrounded by more loyal and appreciative members. The music at this service will be singing in my soul long after the singers have departed. The only mar on the joyous occasion and which tarried with me all during the holiday season was the illness of Mrs. Bradley which started on the week before Christmas and still persists as I write. We spent the day together in her bedroom. opening some of the many cards which came our way to gladden our hearts.

On Wednesday evening the 26th we continued our holiday activities by the regular weekly book lecture when I used Edward Bellmay's great book "Looking Backward" as the basis of the discussion. Altho the day followed Christmas Day there was a large audience and a most interesting one.

Altogether during the Holiday week we had six public services in our church and every one an inspiration while the total attendance outdistanced any similar period in the years of my pastorate.

The loyalty, the faithfulness in attendance, the many expressions of love and appreciation, the cooperation of the choir, the ushers, the officials of the church and all who made the week and the season such a happy and joyous one, I am eternally and everlastingly grateful. Verily, no pastor in all the land is more blessed and encouraged than I and I want to work and live that I may always merit such love and devotion. May the year ahead be a better year for all the world that the ideal of the Baby in whose honir we commemorated the season be realized as he grows into manhood in the years ahead!

—Preston Bradley.

MEDITATION

"On this morning of great beauty as though the warmth and loveliness of a belated autumn was loathe to leave the world to the winter of ice and snow, the last lingering caress of autumn memories, a sky of blue, sunlight of glorious hues, friends, loved ones, life, rest and all that goes to make this morning moment immortal to us, we are grateful with a deeper gratitude than we can express. O, forbid that we should ever be grateful in the sense of the Pharisee that are merely not like other people. Forbid that we may ever gloat because of what has happened, but may we remember that it has come through a long, arduous disciplining of life, we are grateful nevertheless, we are grateful that we like good books; we are grateful that we like beautiful pictures; we are grateful to know the heart of a friend. We are glad for the welcoming love of little children; we are glad for the pageantry of Nature; we are glad for every hour of life. And now teach us how to translate that gladness into lives that are limited and who have not had their happiness. Someone that is shutting out the illumination of the mind, who may be racked in pain in body and houl, some shut-in, some sufferer, someone who is only satisfied with the cheap and shoddy things of life, someone who always mistakes the superficial for the real, who always thinks noise means progress, someone who cannot see values at all, help us to be the medium through which an awakening of these values might come to individual lives.

In the loveliness of this morning, out of every heart, every one, critic, friend, in the home, wherever they are, may there be some moment of transformation in their lives. May everyone who is struggling hard to make life a significant thing be helped because they tarried in the influence of our service today. May it give them a new sense of values. May everyone that is having a hard time with the experience of life be blessed in their gratitude for these moments, that out through the miracle of the ether there can come to them words of inspiration, notes of music of charming distinction and the vibrant personality of a great group of men and women interested in making life a little lovelier, a little finer.

For the sick and the body weary, and for all who suffer, peace and love and healing. To those homes in which since last we met the dark visitor has come, may the loneliness of those homes and the sorrow this day, may it all be but an opening and a flowering to a still more beautiful achievement of "those we love and lost a while."

So, quietly, reverently and with great and abiding faith may we do our best in the little drama of life, each playing a part until the curtain falls and the play is over, and may the Master of the play and may the actor of the part be proud of us when the lights are out."

"ARE YOU IN A RUT?"

Sermon by Dr. Preston Bradley, Pastor of The Peoples Church of Chicago, December 2nd, 1934

"As life goes on and that which we call civilization develops, the complexities are continually increasing in regard to the development of personality and of the highest and finest expression of individual living.

Associated with this we find repeated evidence that there is an increase of so-called 'breakdowns' which have to do very largely with the disintegrated, distorted and chaotic personality. In studying the individual cases of people with whom I have been privileged to come in contact, who have early given me evidence of malformation in regard to the unifying utilities of their lives, I am constantly reminded that one of the dangers that constitute a real prevention from buoyant and abundanat living is to be found in the tyranny of habits which have centered about their lives to the extent that when their is a deviation from those daily habits there is a resultant psychological reaction which has a distinctive tendency to disturb and upset their emotional life. The beginning of many of the failures and difficulties which frequently surround some of our lives can be definitely and accurately traced to these emotional disturbances, for whether we like to believe it or not reason is not the dominating motive in life development, but emotion is, and after we have done all that is possible for us to do in the rationalization of life there still stands out effective and purposeful the influence of our emotive responses until one of the first things that any analytical mind and any individual does, which is anxious to help humanity and to see human lives functioning at their highest and best, is to be found in the fact that some attention must be given and some obedience made to the fundamental problem of emotions and the relationship of these emotions to the continuity and unity of superb living.

In this series of Sunday morning talks in which I am trying to make practical and valuable to all who are suffering the defects of disintegration and the breaking down of the fine structure of human personality, something that shall be of importance and of value to you, this idea suggested itself to me that most of us, practically all of us—I don't know of anyone that escapes it—find ourselves under the tyranny and dominance of certain daily routines of life that constitute very definitely a rut in which we move and have our being, and sometimes when we are disturbed and we have a few moments of mental panic and an emotional reaction that has a tendency to leave us in a position of spiritual inquiry, we stop to analyse just what constituted the inspiration of this kind of inquiry. What is back of it and seeking about to find something that can objectively be related to our emotional experience that sooner or later registers against the entire ensemble of the personality and either destroys or builds. We find that there is a definite influence between tyranny of routine, that which commands and is demanding that we function and perform, and this breaking quality of life. Therefore it seems to me that the question 'Are You in a Rut?' 'Am I in a Rut?' might be discussed and analysed in such a way that each of us would receive something that would help us to more adequately and perfectly express the superb buoyancy of life.

I do not look at life in terms of mere happiness, but quite a-

gree with the ancient Greek philosopher who said that happiness is not really the objective of life, not at all, but I do think buoyancy is, and I think living robustly and vigorously is the greatest happiness of life, and when anything comes to us that interferes with that constructive, creative robustness of life then there is a defect there that ought to demand our attention, our consideration and our care. That thing which I want to introduce to you in the thought of the morning is this kind of a rut.

Obviously it is so plainly and bluntly put that every individual knows what I have in mind. I do not have to spend any time to tell you what I mean by a 'rut.' Those of you fortunate enough to have been raised in the country and who have driven a horse and buggy after a heavy rain or in the springtime after the first thaw when the frost began to leave the earth and it became warmed by the sunshine of the springtime, know what it meant to drive on a country road and get into a rut. The most awful thing was the difficulty of getting out of it, and the other difficulty was that we had to go along with the rut and that after the old wagon had once dropped into the rut you had to wait for an opportunity, for higher ground or a hillock to bring the wagon out to a point where, with a quick-twist of the reins you could get it out, but as long as you were tyrannized by the limitations you had to go only where the rut went and if you tried to go anywhere else it was at your own peril. There are a lot of people in the world today in that kind of rut. The analogy may be an imperfect one to you city folks to whom I may have to explain what a wagon is as well as a horse. Neverthless you are in a rut, and because men and women get into these ruts I wonder sometimes what they do to us and how much of the relative development of personality they destroy and how much of life they prevent us from experiencing.

I would distinguish philosophically immediately between routine and rut. There are certain routines necessary that I do not have to mention, but so commonly accepted as a part of life that they never register with emphasis in the shaping of personality with our experience of life at its best. The routine we have to do, combing our hair, putting on our shoes, fortunately are so related to our own development of personality that they do not register, and we distinguish between routine and rut for there is a vast difference. When I come to a person, and when a person comes to me and begins a recital of their troubles and their problems I begin to practice a little psychiatry upon them unconsciously, of course not obvious to them, for 99% of the people who find themselves in a rut are resultantly in an emotional jam, they are unable to translate emotions and they are unable to give proper values to emotional reflexes, with the result that they are anticipatory of problems that never happen and never occur and are not real at all, for it is surprising the number of problems which disturb us that have no reality at all, they are just not there when you get them out in the proper focus and perspective, and there those who lack the capacity of taking out of this rut their experiences of life and seeing them for what reality there is and what influence is involved.

Now, if we are in a rut—I know people that have been so interested in the reshaping of their personality that they have made purposeful efforts to change them. That is not a bad idea. I think there is a direct influence in sometimes changing the way of combing your hair, the type of clothing, the style of your shoes, the side of the street on which you walk home, in changing life. Do it. There is

a distinct psychological value in breaking up certain influences and dominant factors in the molding of your balances of life. Break it up and you will find that direct influence upon them related to some of the deeper problems which involve the problem of life itself.

I will never forget how little these things were understood. I have always tried to be an individual and not just another one of the mob. That is why I do not care anything about style. I am probably the only man in Chicago who wears a black string necktie, and I do it because all you men are wearing four-in-hand ties. People have asked me why I wore my hair long as I do, it is just because you wear yours so short. I do like individuals and I like people who deepen their individuality into personality. There is a difference between individuality and personality, the individuality precedes personality. Every personality is always the outgrowth of individuality. I like individuals because individuals are on the way to becoming personalities, and after all achieving personality is one of the great adventures of life itself, and so merely to be tyrannized by style makes no impression on me at all. I can order my hat, shoes, neckties and clothes by telephone and never see any of them and when they come put them on and wear them, and when I see the changing of styles tyrannizing people that don't realize the effect of the tyranny, it is interesting to me.

When I was a little boy, that was before the days of child psychology, the school teacher who taught me my letters and taught me to the seventh or eighth grades, was a very remarkable woman, a wonderful teacher, but she did not know anything about child psychology nevertheless, but there wasn't any such thing in those far-off days, but there was child psychology. Of course she did not know anything about it. I used to be so obsessed with the sameness of that woman's personality that it interfered with what she taught me. Many teachers do not take that into consideration, for after all the personality that teaches through the subject under discussion is much more important than anything the teacher teaches. It is more important to adolescence to come in contact with personality than subject matter, for every person in this audience this morning can remember personality that they met in the school rooms and what those personalities did to them when you cannot remember a solitary thing they taught you. You know that that is true, and across the years today, I can see this teacher of mine, God bless her, a lovely individual, but year in and year out from the first day I can remember going to school until the last day, she wore the same kind of clothes, in the same kind of way, cut in the same style, and did exactly the same thing at the same moment, always on time, always perfection, she always wore what people wore in those days, a black skirt with a white shirtwaist. Women wore their hair in little knobs in the back of their heads—what a great improvement they have made! and she always had a lead pencil and that lead pencil always perforated the knob at a very certain and very definite angle. Then she had a bell on her desk that was set in just the same place on the desk relative to the corner and edges, it never deviated one millimeter (whatever that is) and I would get into that class as a little boy and that woman would come in. I can hear her today walk across that room, the same rythmic personality, the same knob and the same pencil and the same desk and she would reach up and pick up that bell with her hand and before she started I knew every word she was going to say, and the tone of her voice. I used to sit there and then go home and tell my mother about her and

bring out exactly what I have in this friendly, intimate talk with you. I used to say to my mother: 'Do you know if that teacher would only come to school some morning, only once, with a white skirt and a black shirtwaist, just once, or if the angle of that knob instead of always bearing to the right would go southeasterly or northwesterly,' and I used to hope and pray that she would forget her pencil in the knob on her head and on many occasions I would steal the bell, and I would have done much more if I had had the opportunity. Why was that? You laugh and smile and of course you have a right to laugh and smile about it, but that woman was deadening any influence she sought to have by not understanding one of the psychological processes for the blending of personality and she was destroying herself for automatically self has a very tragic way of self destruction, and you can suggest to yourselves, both mentally and objectively by the rut and the routine of life those agencies that are self destroying. I want you to contemplate that fact. I want you to think of it. The converse is true, we can rebuild and reawaken and redevelop our delicate personality by a complete mental reversal of habit formation, and character, and that makes for increasing what? The areas of life interests! I have nothing against routine, but the problem is how to increase the area of life interests. If there is a psychologist here this morning or listening to me, he will tell you that the first evidence of a distorted, disintegrating personality is when that personality becomes obsessed of one idea. People that get twisted on one idea and everything else converges to that one idea, ladies and gentlemen, that is pathological, and if you are beginning to be a one idea individual you had better get out of it, increase your range of interests. I am glad for the range of interests that come daily into my life, a range that is always increasing. Nothing that pertains to human life is ever uninteresting to me. I love the whole realm of sports. I love the whole realm of literature. I love the theater, the opera and art, music and friends, play and laughter, and I don't want to live an hour after I have become obsessed with the importance of only one life interest. I want to keep life vibrant, enthusiastic, I like enthusiastic people, I like life's enthusiasm.

If you are here this morning and worried about yourself physically or mentally or spiritually, may I give you a little recipe that will work and it will cost you not a dollar—FIND SOMETHING TO GET ENTHUSIASTIC OVER! Find something that you can get **enthusiastic over!** Find a dog or a cat, a fishrod or a friend, or a cause, or a church, something outside of your business, something outside of your worries, something outside of your desk, something outside of your troubles, find something to get enthusiastic over, something that you can really get warmed up about, something that will increase your heart action, that will start the blood throbbing, find something to get **enthusiastic over,** and I hand you a little key this morning that will work a transformation in your life, and the rut will take on a different hue and color.

One of the greatest men that ever stood in an American pulpit, in his sympathic understanding of all these problems of life was my hero when I was a freshman in college, and across the years this morning I can still hear this man with all the fire and beauty of his personality, that some of you might have heard, a poet preacher, one of the greatest of all the tragedians of the pulpit, the Shakespeare of the pulpit, the Edwin Booth of the pulpit, whose range of interests in human life were so extensive and so beautiful, and I remember

when I was a freshman at the age of sixteen in a country college, this man came to talk to us. I can see him yet with his ruddy, freckled face and his tousled hair and the ruggedness of his personality, standing before that group of college people, and I can hear him close those matchless moments for me with the poem of Tennyson 'Follow the Gleam'! 'Follow the Gleam!' Later when I became a student in this city I used to go way over to St. James Church every morning to hear him preach. America never had a greater preacher than Bishop William A. Quayle, and some of you of the older generation may have heard him. That preaching is all gone, it does not exist in the American pulpit today. Our modern pulpiteers are afraid of emotion and passion and they pride themselves on the conversational tone of their preaching, and you are supposed to look like an insurance salesman and not raise your voice, and carry on a beautiful conversation, and the erudite listen to you and there are many empty seats, these are sad days, I notice, in many ways. Preaching that is nothing more or less than truth through personality, nothing less than passion, fire and flame of life, and they tell me that I belong to the old school, that I should not raise my voice and should not have any passion in my preaching! Well, when I get to the point that truth through personality does not command every emotional fiber of my being so that I can bring it to you with that same quality of passion which I feel, then I hope that I shall never enter a pulpit again. I would rather touch human lives than I would teach them, and I would rather inspire a human life than I would merely to give them a philosophical education.

And so this man, Bishop Quayle wrote a little story, and this illustrates what I mean, and he called it 'A Six Mile Walk on a railroad track in Kansas.' If you can imagine anything in the world less inspiring to write a story, however he wrote this little article after he had taken a train to a certain junction and found that he would have to wait for several hours for another train and rather than wait that length of time he walked all the way. He liked to walk because if there is one thing in the world that helps it is the joy and art of walking. You don't know the thrill of life until you walk! You have got to throw your shoulders back and fill your lungs up and walk. Come with me and we will do what I do often, walk from my home to the loop, eight miles, and enjoy every step of it. So much of the trouble is never learning the art of living in terms of Nature. The great danger and difficulty of thrilling to life in terms of living it joyously and vigorously. Well he wrote this little article and it was published, and he did it so well that a literary critic from New York, when he was out one time to Kansas City went to see that six mile stretch of track that Bishop Quayle wrote about. He got on the train, got off at the junction and walked down six miles of railroad track in the hot sun,—not a crook in it, not a hillock, not a turn, parched prairie grass, railroad tracks, a Kansas sky, that's all there was. He never even found a bush or a tree, and he wrote back to his paper that the greatest liar in the State of Kansas was the Reverend Quayle, because he went out there and he walked the six miles, but there was nothing there to see. Dr. Quayle's reply was: 'Aye, but he did not see it through my eyes, it was there.' When a man came to Socrates once and said: 'Socrates, that man has been all over the known world, but he never saw a thing,' and Socrates reply was: 'Of course he did not, he took himself along.'

Now, that's one of the problems of life to find out when we take ourselves along to get the glory

out of what? The glory of the uncommon commonplace. To see what? "Sermons in stones, books in running brooks and good in everything." To increase your interests, to see joy and beauty and love, that will be the beginning of getting out of the rut of life. To think of life in these terms is to think of life in a creative, constructive term, and after all, what is the test of culture? What really is the test of culture? What really is? I see a man on my street—I am going to stop him some day and talk to him. Walt Whitman tells us it is perfectly all right to do that. It may be all right with Whitman, but it might land you and me in the penitentiary, but Walt Whitman says: 'If you want to do it, go ahead and do it.' This man is always carrying 5 or 6 books, and he smokes an old fashioned curved briar, he carries a cane, he is beyond middle age. I see him often coming and going on the street with a look of contentment. Always looks about the same. He lives somewhere on the street that I live on, but I know that there is a contented mind; I know that that man has found the secret. Do you know what it is, what the real test is in an age like this where someone has to tune in a radio and keep it on from morning until night, when you can hardly sit down and have a meal alone with your friends and family, when you let all the world right in at the door, and where the thought of spending an evening alone would be tragedy! In this age where we have to be entertained, something going on all the time, where we need artifical stimulus to do what? Make us forget ourselves until the test of culture is two things to me, and two alone.

The first is: 'How do you treat those less fortunate than you are?' That's the first test of culture. It is not what we know, it it not how much money we have, but it is how we treat those less fortunate than ourselves.

What is the other test of culture? This is the test: 'Can you stand to be alone with yourself?' How much resourcefulness have you developed along the way? Are you demanding always an external influence? Must there always be someone there, music, light noise, things, talk? Or can you find a quiet nook in life, a long trail in a beautiful forest, a little lake, long walks, sand dunes, sunset? Why not try life on those terms? If you will crowd yourself with the beauty and joy of life, do you know what will happen? The old wagon of life will come to a high, hard place in the road and you can twist the reins on the horse and the old wagon will creak but it will come out of the rut and life will take on new beauty and new charm. Every morning will be a new morning, and every sunset a new sunset. Millions and millions and millions of snowflakes and never two alike! Millions and millions of raindrops and no duplicates in the crystalization! Millions of sunsets, and never one like another! Millions of golden hours to live Life and may every one be beautiful!"

PASTOR'S CALENDAR

Preston Bradley kept the following engagements during the month of December:

2—Two sermons, Peoples Church.
2—Address, Chicago Lodge Elks.
2—Address, 4H Clubs, Goodman Theater.
3—Meeting, Crusaders Luncheon.
3—Address, Kahn Club, Crippled Children.
3—Address, Hamilton Club.
4—Address, Junior Friends of Art.
5—Address, Bartlett.
5—Address, Friends of Drama.
5—Book Lecture, Peoples Church.
6—Address, Kiwanis Club.
6—Address, Peoples Church, Park Ridge School.

7—Address, P.-T. A. Clinton School.
9—Two sermons, Peoples Church.
9—Address, Chicago Civic Opera House, United Slavic Choral Society.
11—Radio Address, Columbia Chain.
12—Address, Bartlett.
12—Book Lecture, Peoples Church.
13—Address, Food Products Club.
13—Address, Conference of Club Presidents.
14—Address, North Side Animal Shelter.
15—Address, American Pen Women.
16—Two Sermons, Peoples Church.
17—Address, Englewood Woman's Club.
17—Board Meeting Chicago Library.
17—Usher's Dinner, Peoples Church.
17—Board Meeting, Peoples Church.
18—Radio Address, Columbia Chain.
19—Book Lecture, Peoples Church.
20—Radio Address, Columbia Chain.
21—Annual Party, Church School.
23—Sermon, Peoples Church.
23—Annual Candlelight Service.
24—Annual Candlelight Service.
25—Sermon, Peoples Church.
25—Address, Columbia Chain
26—Book Lecture, Peoples Church.
27—Radio Address, Columbia Chain.
28—Annual Candlelight Service.
30—Address, Selwyn Theater.
30—Two Sermons, Peoples Church.
31—Address, American Legion.

FUNERALS

1—Mrs. J. F. Ahles, Interment, Rosehill
4—Mrs. Caldwell, Interment, Oakwoods
8—Mr. Charles D. Ellstrom, Interment, Graceland

WEDDINGS

1—Richard A. Munster and Kathryn M. Peterson
8—Alvin Blandford and Phyllis Grossman
13—Bert W. Horswell and Artena Allen Knebler
15—Harry A. Gustafson and Corinne M. Seabloom
15—Nelson W. Marshall and Gladys Pierce
21—George K. Gammon and Pearle Waite
22—Ben P. Mullen and May Young
22—Ervin F. Neuzil and Eilleen Stringer
23—Carl O. Boernsen and Dorothy Sue Golden
24—Sigurd Johanson and Sara Ekstrand
25—Henry Victor Adams and Mary Betty Betts
29—Walter Morowski and Isabelle Rogacki
31—Sam L. Fox and Bertha Bichler

AN APPRECIATION

In behalf of Mrs. Bradley and myself I desire to express to all who by their thoughtfulness and kindness in many ways contributed so much to our enjoyment of the Holiday season just passed. We received over 1,000 Christmas Cards and an avalanche of Christmas letters. It is utterly impossible to answer personally each one. But we want you all to know how deeply we appreciated your remembering us. For over a month Mrs. Bradley has been unable to leave the house and many hours of her time are spent in looking over the beautiful cards and reading the lovely letters which breathe love and appreciation. You will never fully realize what joy you have brought to us. We received many gifts ranging from home-made candy and pop-corn from an Iowa radio listener to a beautiful bed spread made by loving hands. How can we ever return your love and affection! Surely much hap-

piness and joy will come to you during the year ahead for you gave so much to us. Please know we haven't words or power to express the depth of our gratitude that there are people like you.

Preston Bradley.

NEW MEMBERS

We do not wait for one or two occasions during the year to accept new members but set aside the first Sunday of every month for that purpose. On the first Sunday in January we received the following persons in to membership:

Mrs. Andrew P. Adler 2211 Noyes Street, Evanston, Illinois

Mr. Oscar Anderberg, 410 Lennox Street, Oak Park, Illinois

Mrs. Sarah D. Brown, 5358 Indiana Avenue

Mr. Richard Dina, 831 Edgecomb Place

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Fellgren, 5241 North Damen Avenue

Mrs. Hazel M. Goodale, 431 S. Euclid Avenue, Princeton, Ill.

Miss Barbara Alberta Hawkins, 4209 Addison Street

Mr. Harry Heck, 4619 North Kilbourn Avenue

Mrs. Ellen Johnson, 1710 Orrington Avenue, Evanston, Ill.

Mrs. Charlotte King, 158 South 19th, Maywood, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McNaught, 4619 North Kilbourn Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Olson, 4819 North Lincoln Street

Mrs. Henrietta Palmer, 11 South Oakley Boulevard

Mrs. Sarah and Miss Leontine Ryan, 5630 Kenmore Avenue

Mr. W. C. Smith, 6021 Dorchester Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Solem, 1405 Thacker Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois

Miss Marilyn Solem, 1405 Thacker Avenue, Des Plaines, Illinois

Mrs. Peggy Bell, 915 Wilson Avenue

Mrs. Margaret Revnak, 6118 Winthrop Avenue.

THE WOMAN'S CLUB

After a very pleasant Christmas party, December 17th, the Woman's Club adjourned for the holiday period. The celebration of the holidays to most of us is a season of great pleasure with their joyful memories and happy incidents both past and present. The remembrance of old friends and relatives, and to be remembered by them brings a precious warmth to the heart like nothing else in the whole year! But to some of the members of our club the season has brought sorrow and illness. Mrs. Ahles who is among the oldest membership in the club, suffering the grief and sense of separation from her devoted husband who died quite suddenly just prior to the holidays, went east to spend a few weeks with her daughter.

Close on the dawn of the New Year one of our old members Mrs. H. Friedlander, who was quite active in our work before she suffered a stroke which has kept her invalid for over two years, passed on. Then early in the New Year Mrs. J. J. Reynolds had the sad experience of losing her brother-in-law who lived in Gary, Indiana.

Mrs. Preston Bradley missed her usual enthusiastic enjoyment of the holidays, having become suddenly and seriously ill about two weeks before Christmas with acute bronchitis. She was happy to sit up for the first time on Christmas day. After her long and tedious convalescence she hopes soon to be active again. Mrs. Hermsdorf has not attended club meetings for some time owing to the illness of her husband. She left with Mr. Harmsdorf a few days after Christmas for Bermuda. They are both greatly missed and will be gladly welcomed upon their return.

The Woman's Club calendar has so many interesting things for January that it is to be deeply regretted so many are obliged because of colds and other ills, to

miss these splendid programs.

January 7th, there was the Department of American Citizenship at the morning session, with Mrs. F. W. Matthews, chairman, and that afternoon the Department of International Relations. Mrs. W. T. Bell, chairman, had as her speaker Dr. Paul K. Walt, Secretary of "Mid-West League of Nations"; Dr. Walt taught International Relations at the University of Wisconsin, and has a degree from Geneva, Switzerland. The subject of his address was "War or Peace in 1935."

On January 14th, Dr. Bradley gave a talk on Mary Pickford's book "Why Not Try God?" before the Club and a crowded audience of guests. Mrs. Mida Anderson sang a group of songs. Her glorious voice adding to the beauty of Dr. Bradley's address made a memorable afternoon.

January 21st, is the date set for the Midseason Reception and Tea to be held at the Drake Hotel. Mrs. Reynolds with the officers and directors of the Club will receive the members and guests at 1:30; and at two o'clock the artist of the afternoon Mr. J. Bradley-Griffin will give a dramatic reading of "Come of Age" a play by Clarence Dane and Richard Addinsell.

WEDNESDAY BOOK LECTURES

The regular Wednesday Book Lectures went right on during the holiday season without interruption or any decline of interest. They continue to be a constant source of inspiration and help. The largest audience this season (2160) came to hear Dr. Bradley's review of his own book. "Courage For Today" which during the month outsold every other non-fiction book in the Chicago stores and book-shops. The lectures will continue until the last Wednesday in April. At the time of going to press the February schedule is not decided. Announcements will be made each Sunday morning over the radio of the title to be used at the lectures. The attendance at these lectures surpass any similar book lectures in this country. They begin at 8:00 o'clock sharp and close promptly at 9:00 o'clock.

Mr. Flandorf gives a fifteen minute organ recital preceding each lecture. The seats are all free and all are invited. Many university students are attending and the audience is composed of people from every section of Chicago. Many societies and churches in Chicago are avoiding Wednesday evenings in scheduling activities in order not to conflict with these lectures. This is the third season for the lectureship and will remain a permanent feature of the work and contribution of the church.

FEBRUARY SERMON SUBJECTS

During the month of February the pulpit subjects of the pastor are biographical in character. For many years the entire month has been devoted to the study of great men and women in which the month of February has a most distinguished number. All of the morning themes will have as a basis the study of some great personality. These subjects will be announced from the pulpit. The congregations in spite of most adverse weather conditions have maintained their interest at all services.

RADIO RESPONSE

The church received more letters from members of the radio congregation during December than any other month in the 11 years of our broadcasting. These letters are always a help and an inspiration. Our radio costs are maintained entirely by the voluntary offerings of our listeners. Our expense is high and any contribution which our radio friends desire to make be it large or small is most thankfully received.

Kindly address all letters to Dr. Preston Bradley, Peoples Church of Chicago, 941 Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many new subscriptions to our Church Magazine were received during the month of December. Many presented a year subscription as a Christmas present to their friends. The magazine is now going all over the United States and to many foreign countries. We are happy over this for it increases the sphere of our influence. The magazine is very unpretentious but we do hope that it contains the spirit and ideal of the church and its work. A dollar bill with a name and address sent to the church office will send the magazine for a year to any address anywhere. All proceeds after the costs are deducted go to the support and maintenance of the church work. Please subscribe.

WINTER PLUMES

Last night while a world weary from play and work, fevered by haste, stained by tears and mellowed by laughter, had been hushed to rest, a strange deft artistry transformed the grey, drab earth. It seemed as tho a fifth season had suddenly been ushered in, with a witchery of wonder and a touch of fadeless beauty, that changed our bleak earth into a fairyland. Trees that shivered in their nakedness were decked in plumes like a bridal party of nymphs. Spotless festoons garlanded bushes and shrubs, wreathing them with queen-like ermine, assuring us that the coronation of winter had come. With majestic pagentry hillsides and woodlands were swathed in iridescent garments of delicate texture. Silently, the scintillating sunbeams wove a glistening shadowy veil, interlaced with a million diamonds, over hill and dale. Soon a fan-fare resounding from enchanted bird breasts and human hearts heralded the coronation of winter for which spring with its tender hopes, summer with its active labors, and autumn with its golden dreams come true, had yearned.

How like human life this is! For each of us there comes a winter with its biting cold, blanketing snow and sickening bareness. But oh, how we need to learn that it is the brilliant coronation of all our years, our tears, our fairest dreams! Then, alas, shall our winter become the royal tokens of victory!

W. W. W. Argow.

Old Time, in whose banks we deposit our notes,
Is a miser who always wants guineas for groats;
He keeps all his customers still in arrears
By lending them minutes and charging them years.

—O. W. Holmes.

And whatever changes the years may bring their should be gains in experience, in knowledge, in wisdom, and in power, that will far more than compensate for whatever losses the past has brought.

Ralph Waldo Trine.

BEGINNING

Every day is a fresh beginning;
Every morn is the world made new;
You who are made weary of sorrow and sinning,
Here is a beautiful hope for you—
A hope for me, and a hope for you.

All the past things are past and over,
The tasks are done and the tears are shed;
Yesterday's errors let yesterday cover;
Yesterday's wounds, which smarted and bled,
Are healed with the healing which night has shed.

Yesterday now is a part of forever,
Bound up in a sheaf which God holds tight
With glad days and sad days and bad days, which never
Shall visit us more with their bloom or their blight,
Their fullness of sunshine or sorrowful night.

Let them go, since we cannot relieve them,
Cannot undo, and cannot atone.
God in His mercy receive, and forgive them!
Just the new days are our own;
Today is ours, and today alone.

Every day is a fresh beginning!
Listen, my soul, to the glad refrain.
And in spite of old sorrows and older sinning,
And puzzles forecasted and possible pain,
Take heart with the day, and begin again.

—Susan Coolidge.

DR. BRADLEY'S NEW BOOK "COURAGE FOR TODAY"

Our readers, members and radio friends will be glad to know that our pastor's new book "Courage For Today" has been in the Best Seller lists since the week of its publication last September. Evidently the time was ripe for a book on Courage. It has broken all records in Chicago for a Chicago author. It has been on the Best Seller list a longer time in Chicago than any other book by a Chicagoan and with one exception has seen every book which was on the list when it was published leave the best seller class. The Wednesday evening that Dr. Bradley lectured on the book over 2100 pople heard him in his own church. The book may be purchased in any book shop in the United States, or direct from the publisher (Bobbs Merrill Company, Indianapolis, Indiana.) It sells for $1.50. Autographed copies are available in the book and department stores in Chicago, who will be glad to take your mail order. Every discouraged, disheartened person will be helped by this book. Ask your bookseller. The book can be found in the Chicago Public Library and in all Rental libraries.

DR. BRADLEY'S ROUND TABLE TALKS

There are only a few copies left of Dr. Bradley's Radio Round Table Talks. They are nicely bound and wrapped in celophane and may be purchased from the church office of the church, 941 Lawrence Ave. at Sheridan Road, Chicago, for twenty-five cents. Send your money to Mrs. Harrison at the church office who will promptly mail you as many copies as you desire while they last.

Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. Let it simply be asked, where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligations desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? Let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. It is therefore substantially true that religion is a necessary spring of popular government.

—Farewell Address,
George Washington.

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